

SEP 07 2001

Suggested Topics for Public Comment on Yucca Mountain

- Please provide your views concerning whether the Yucca Mountain Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation (PSSE) and other scientific documents produced by the Department provide an adequate basis for finding that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development of a repository. If you believe that certain aspects of the PSSE are inadequate, please detail the basis for this belief and indicate how the documentation might be made adequate with respect to these aspects.
- If the Secretary determines that the scientific analysis indicates that the Yucca Mountain site is likely to meet the applicable radiation protection standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency and Nuclear Regulatory Commission, do you believe that the Secretary should proceed to recommend the site to the President at this time? If not, please explain. I do believe the Secretary should make that recommendation to the President as soon as the scientific analysis confirms support from the EPA and the NRC.
- Are there any reasons that you believe should prevent the President from concluding that the Yucca Mountain site is qualified for the preparation and submission of a construction license application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission? Not if the site is determined to be a safe repository for nuclear waste for 2000 + generations.
- If you believe that the Secretary should not proceed with a recommendation to develop a repository at Yucca Mountain, what mechanism should be utilized to meet the Department's legal obligation to begin accepting spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste?
- If you believe that the Secretary should not proceed with a recommendation to develop a repository at Yucca Mountain, what measures should the Nation consider for assuring safe disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high level radioactive waste?
- Please provide any other comments concerning any relevant aspect of the Yucca Mountain site for use as a repository, or that are otherwise relevant to the consideration of a possible recommendation by the Secretary. Spent nuclear waste is an issue of national security. Should Yucca Mountain become the first nuclear repository, it will most likely not be the last. Even if Yucca Mountain is not perfect, it is certainly safer than where we are currently storing tons of spent nuclear waste. If we do not start the permanent storage process soon, this country faces the potential for an ecological disaster. Until this country can guaranty the safe storage of these materials, we should ban all proposals for building more nuclear power plants.

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